# GHOULTALES



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## GHOULTALES

JANUARY 1971

**VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2** 

### BLOODY SPAWN OF THE CAT.....

Her life was dedicated to the comfort of her sleek folines. With them, and only them could she find peace. And woe to anyone who crossed them

### THE CLOCK MAKER .....

What was the awful secret that lived in the tiny shop. Was it true that the Evli one himself was responsible for the vile powers that spewed from there?

### HATCHET MAN...... 14

Somewhere in the city lurked a mysterious killer before whom the entire underworld qualled. No living man could escape his vicious vengeance

### "YOU LOOK GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT"...... 18

Beware driving even the lowest humans beyond the point of despeir. Or you too may end up as nothing more than a fleshiess pile of bones

### FATE...... 24

There were four possible reads to freedom. Would any of them lead to safety, or was he In the grip of a power stronger than human will

### TURNABOUT...... 30

They tormented and tortured those weaker than they were. But the day finally came when the tormented turned on them and they knew the ultimate design.

EVIL EYE ..... 34 For years he suffered, waiting for the day when he could finally take revenue. Then a strange statue gave him a power he could not control

### COLD CASH ...... 40

He'd made good his getaway with a fortune in stolen money. Now all that lay between him and a life of ease was a bilggard and a mysterious cave

### THE CURSE OF THE PIRATE'S GOLD ...... 46

His plan seemed perfect. There was no way for it to go wrong. No way-except the harmless words of a curse that had lived for centuries

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DO YOU BELIEVE IN REINCARNATION ?... THE PASSAGE OF A SOUL FROM ONE LIFE TO ANOTHER, EACH TIME IN A DIFFERENT FORM? IN THIS THEORY, PERHAPS, LIES THE ANSWER TO THE TALE I AM ABOUT TO TELL YOU... THE TALE OF FELICIA... BEAUTIFUL, GRACEFUL

### BLOODYSPAWN THE CAT





THE TENT LIGHTS WENT OUT AND ONLY A SINGLE BLUE SPOTLIGHT SHONE ON THE CROUCHED, BEAUTIFUL FIGURE OF FELICIA / THE DANCE WAS ABOUT TO BEGIN!



NO MUSIC, NO DRUMS ACCOMPANIED THE STRANGE DANCE... ONLY A LOW, MOURNFUL HUM WHICH ISSUED FROM FELICIA'S OWN LOVELY THROAT! THE AUDIENCE WAS HELD IN A HYPNOTIC TRANCE AS HER BODY SWAYED TO A SLOW, UNDULATING RYTHYM... GRACEFUL, FLOWING... CAT-LIKE...



AND WHEN THE DANCE WAS OVER THERE WAS DEAD SILENCE! THE AUDIENCE FILED OUT SLOWLY, QUIETLY, STILL DAZED... IT WAS EERIE!



LATER THAT AFTERNOON, SIMON, THE CIRCUS STRONGMAN ENTERED FELICIA'S TENT...



FELICIA CLAWED AT HIS FACE LIKE A WILD-WOMAN ... SHE SANK HER SHARP TEETH INTO HIS HAND!





I SAW SIMON AS HE CAME STAGGERING OUT OF FELICIA'S TENT...



THAT NIGHT, I PONDERED HIS WORDS ...



AND THIS NIGHT I COULD NOT SLEEP ... SOMETHING WAS TROUBLING ME ... SOMETHING THAT KEPT ELUDING MY CONSCIOUSNESS ...



WHY DON'T
YOU STOP
MOLESTING
THE GIRL?
SHE WANTS
NOTHING BUT
TO BE LEFT
ALONE!

OH, SURE... SO'S YOU CAN HAVE
A CLEAR FIELD, EH? | SEEN HER
HANGIN AROUND YOU AN' THOSE
ANIMALS ALL THE TIME. WHAT'VE
YOU GOT THAT I AIN'T?

ALONE!

SOOTHED BY HER MERE PRESENCE! IT WAS UN-CANNY, THE EFFECT SHE HAD ON THEM! THERE WERE TIMES WHEN SHE ACTUALLY APPEARED TO TALK TO THEM...



WHEN I REACHED THE GIRL'S TENT, A STRANGE SIGHT MET MY EYES! FELICIA WAS GOING THROUGH A WILD, FRENZIED DANCE HER BODY ROCKED AND GYRATED IN VIOLENT SPASMODIC MOVEMENTS... SHE SEEMED LIKE ONE POSSESSED.



THE MAD DANCE ENDED ABRUPTLY, AND I STEPPED BACK INTO THE SHADOWS AS SHE EMERGED FROM HER TENT AND, CROUCHING LOW LIKE AN ANIMAL SHE SLID PAST ME AND DISAPPEARED AROUND THE SIDE...



TRIED TO FOLLOW HER, BUT SHE WAS TOO SWIFT!













SHE SPRANG AT MY THROAT, SLASHING VICIOUSLY WITH CLAWLIKE FINGERS! I HAD NO CHOICE!



SHE DID A CRAZY, TWISTING STAGGERING DANCE ... A DANCE OF DEATH ... AND THEN SLUMPED IN A HEAP BY THE BODY OF THE PANTHER!



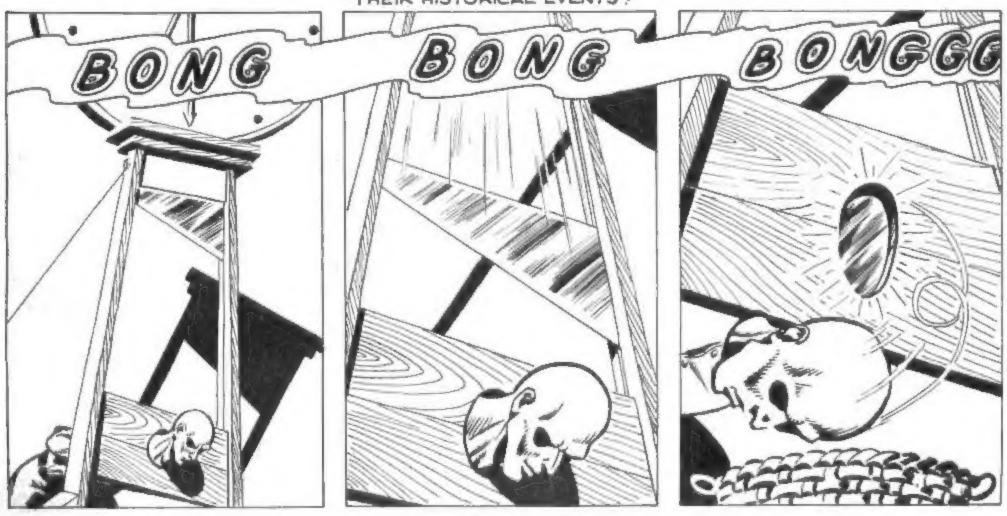
AND THEN AN INCREDIBLE THING HAPPENED! I COULD SWEAR THAT FOR A MOMENT, AS I STARED DUMBFOUNDED AT THE DEAD SEAUTIFUL FELICIA ... THE SEDUCTIVE CURVES AND LOVELY WHITE FLESH CHANGED ... AND BECAME THE SLEEK



### THE COCK MAKER



BUT BEN'S CLOCKS WEREN'T ORDINARY TIMEPIECES... FAR FROM IT! THEY WERE THE REINCARNATION OF PAST EVENTS... AS IF THE SMALL FIGURINES HAD COME BACK FROM THE GRAVE TO REENACT THEIR HISTORICAL EVENTS!



HIS CLOCKS WERE BEN'S FIRBT LOVE, BUT THE OLD MAN HAD ANOTHER LOVE ... HIS WIFE, LOIS SHE WAS YOUNG BEAUTIFUL, VIBRANT ... EVERYTHING THAT BEN WASN'T! BUT WHY DID SHE MARRY AN OLD HUNCHBACK WHEN SHE COULD HAVE HER PICK OF THE HANDSOME YOUNG MEN? SIMPLE, BEN HAD MADE A FORTUNE WITH HIS ART... SOMEDAY IT WOULD ALL BELONG TO HER!

ARE YOU STILL 1 WAS 80 WORKING ON THAT WRAPPED UP IN MY WORK THAT I IT'S ALMOST NINE O'CLOCK AND FORGOT ALL WE'RE GOING TO ABOUT IT ... BE LATE FOR THE HAVE THEATRE! YOU PATIENCE, MY DEAR, I'LL GO PROMISED YOU'D TAKE ME TONIGHT! RIGHT UPSTAIRS AND GET READY!

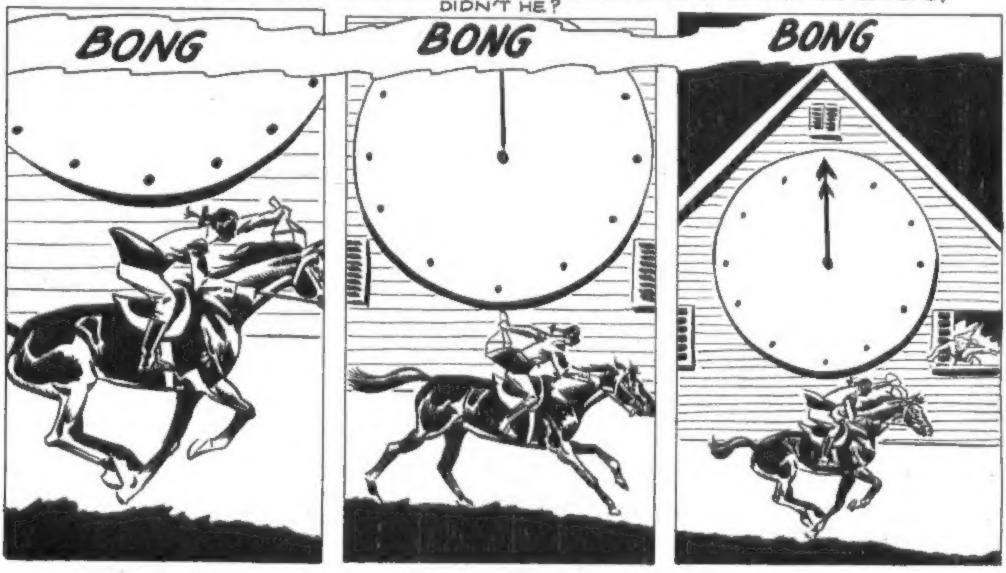




OF COURSE LOIS WASN'T IN LOVE WITH BEN, HOW COULD SHE BE WHEN HER HEART BELONGED TO SOMEBODY SHE WAS KEEPING A TRYST WITH THAT VERY NIGHT...



AND WHAT OF BEN ? OH, HE WAS HAPPY IN HIS IGNORANCE ... AND HE STILL HAD HIS CLOCKS,



TIME PASSED QUICKLY AND AS IT DID BEN BECAME EVEN MORE ENGROSSED IN HIS MAGICAL CLOCKS AS FOR LOIS, THE FIRES OF HER LOVE AFFAIR FLAMED TO THE HEIGHTS OF ECSTACY! AND WHEN SHE SAW TAHT BEN HAD NO SUSPICIONS BHE FLAUNTED HER LOVER IN HIS FACE!









WHAT 16 BEN'S SECRET ANYWAY? HOW DOES HE GET THOSE FIGURINES **TO ACT 50** LIFELIKE? HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO KEEP IT FROM EDDIE, **SUT HE CAN'T** VERY WELL KEEP IT FROM US ! COME, IT'S LATER NOW, LET'S FOLLOW THE OLD MAN INTO THAT DINGY SHOP





AND THERE YOU HAVE IT. BEN'S SECRET A MIXTURE OF ANCIENT SORCERY WITH THE AGILE HANDS OF THE CRAFTSMAN IMPOSSIBLE, YOU SAY? WHO ARE WE TO QUESTION THE METHODS OF THE MYSTERIOUS ONES...

AND A FEW DAYS LATER... AFTER THE POWER OF THE FULL MOON HAD DONE IT'S WORK.



BEN TOOK THE FIGURINE BACK TO HIS WORKSHOP AND GUICKLY PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON THE TIME PIECE! WHILE THE PREVIOUS MODELS HAD BEEN MORE THAN ACCEPTED, THIS ONE EVEN AMAZED THE OLD MAN' THIS WAS PERFECTION.



THE CLOCKMAKER BECAME EVEN MORE WITH HIS TIMERIECES THAN EVER BEFORE HE SECAME SO WRAPT UP IN HIS WORK THAT HE FORGOT EVERYTHING ELSE .. EVEN HIS LOVELY WIFE LOIS! NOT THAT SHE CARED FOR SHE HAD EDDIE BUT THE IMPATIENCE OF YOUTH FINALLY POURED V 1 THEY HAD TO GET RID OF

THE OBSTACLE IN THEIR PATH / BUT THE FATES STEPPED IN ONE DAY AS BEN WAS RACING TO TELL THE NEWS TO HIS YOUNG WIFE





BEN RETURNED TO HIS WORKSHOP A BROKENHEARTED, DEFEATED OLD MAN BUT A MAN WITH VENGEANCE IN HIS SOUL AND HE KNEW THE WAY TO WRECK HIS VENGEANCE ...







GRIMLY, BEN BROUGHT THE TWO DOLLS TO THE PINGY SHOP! SURPRISE WAS WRITTEN ON THE OLD HAGS FACE, BUT WITH A SHRUG SHE WENT TO WORK AND ONCE MORE THE DOLL-LIKE REPLICAS WERE BROUGHT TO LIFE TO REPRESENT A SCENE THEY WOULD 500N REENACT!

I'VE WORKED GOOD', 'VE WASTED THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE WAITING FOR HIM TO DIE... NOW I'M GOING TO HELP HIM ALONG!

THEY WAITED EAGERLY FOR BEN TO ARRIVE .. BUT ALL WAS QUIET .. EXCEPT FOR THE CHIMING OF A NEW CLOCK ...



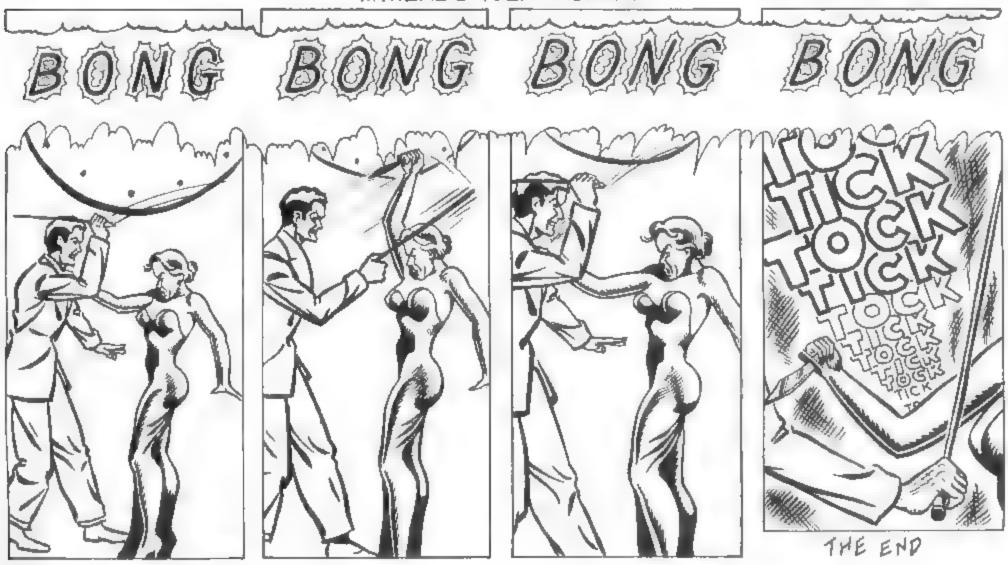
THE STRANGE SENSATION HAD TAKEN COM-PLETE CONTROL OF THE TWO LOVERS . BUT HAD CHANGED THEIR ARDOR TO A FEELING OF HATE!



IT WAS A BROKEN HEARTED BEN WHO CALLED THE POLICE TO VIEW THE SCENE OF DEATH THAT HAD GREETED HIM ON HIS RETURN HOME



LOOKING FOR A MOTIVE, OFFICER? DON'T LOOK TOO FAR JUST AT THE CLOCK IN THE HALL ...THERE'S YOUR ANSWER!



MEN FLOCKED TO LAURIE LIKE BEEF AROUND HONEY! BUT LAURIE'S TASTES RAN HIGH -- TOO HIGH FOR MOST OF HER LOVERS! THAT'S WHY SHE TOOK UP WITH RINGO -- FOR SHE KNEW THAT MONEY MEANT NOTHING TO HIM - BUT THAT WAS ALL SHE KNEW ABOUT HIM -- SHE DIDN'T KNOW THAT HE WAS --

### THAT CHET MAN



IT GEEMED STRANGE THAT THIS BEAUTIFUL DOLL SHOULD AGREE TO MARRY THIS GNOME-LIKE CREATURE! BUT APPARENTLY SHE DIDN'T CARE ABOUT HIS LOOKS -- IT WAS ONLY HIS WALLET SHE WAS INTERESTED IN ---AND WHAT WENT WITH IT! BUT OF COURSE RINGO DIDN'T KNOW THAT -- FOR AT LAST HE HAD FOUND A GIRL WHO NOT ONLY WOULD LOVE HIM. BUT WOULD ALGO MARRY

GAURIE PLAYED THE GAME WELL --RINGO NEVER SUSPECTED ---



FOR LAURIE WAS IN LOYE WITH ANOTHER MAN -IN FACT, WITH MANY MEN-THAT'S WHY SHE COULDN'T WAIT TILL RINGO LEFT!



HIM!

IN OTHER WORDS LAURIE WAS PLAY-ING RINGO FOR A SUCKER -THE MONEY SHE WOULD GET FROM HIM MOULD KEEP THE OTHER MEN IN HER LIFE HAPPY --AND NEAR HER! BUT RINGO DIDN'T KNOW THAT --HE DION'T HAVE TIME TO KNOW IT! MOR RINGO'S PROFESSION KEPT HIM BUSY - TOO BUSY TO CHECK UP ON THE GIRL HE WAS IN LOVE WITH -- THE GIRL HE WAS GOING TO MARRY RINGO WAS A HATCHET MAN!

GOT TO MAKE

SURE!

WAURIE HAD MADE HER PLANS WELL --BUT SHE OVERLOOKED ONE THING --THE ELEMENT OF CHANCE! AND ONE DAY ONE OF RINGO'S BOYS SAW HER WITH ONE OF HER MANY LOYERS --

THAT'S THE BOSS' DOLL WITH ANOTHER GUY -- BETTER TELL RINGO! HE DON'T LIKE ANYBODY TWO-TIMING



BUTRINGO COULDN'T BELIEVE IT-- NOT LAURIE - SHE WAS TRUE TO HIM -- NOT LIKE THE OTHERS - SHE COULDN'T BE --FOR LYING -- NO BODY I SAW HER WITH THIS GUY -- HEY,

WHAT'S THAT

FORE

SAYS ANYTHING AGAINST LAURIE WITHOUT ANSWERING TO ME! IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOMEBODY WHO LOOKS LIKE HER!



RINGO WAS A METHOOKAL MAN-THAT'S HOW HE HAD

BUILT UP HIS REPUTATION AND BUSINESS -- HE

BUT THE THOUGHT PREYED ON HIM ALL DAY --THE MORE HE THOUGHT ABOUT IT THE LESS SURE HE BECAME OF LAURIE -HE HAD OFTEN

MONDERED WHY SHE HAD FALLEN FOR HIM -- BUT IN THE HAPPINESS OF THAT LOVE HE'D FORGOTTEN WIN UNEARINESS - BUT NOW IT RETURNED --GOT TO FIND OUT --



WASN'T GOING TO CONVICT LAURIE ON SOME -BODYS WORD -- HED FIND OUT FOR HIMSELF --NOT TONIGHT, BABY --I'VE GOT SOME



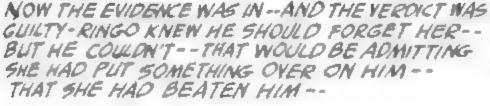
STES, IT WAS IMPORTANT BUSINESS-JUST HOW IMPORTANT LAURIE DIDN'T REAUZE!



BUT RINGO DIDN'T HAVE LONG TO WAIT -- FOR LAURIE WAS LONELY THAT NIGHT -- LONELY FOR A MAN --AND A SHORT TIME LATER --











RINGO PRETENDED HE KNEW NOTHING -- AND THE WEDDING WENT OFF ON SCHEDULE -- GOON LAURIE WOULD HAVE EYERYTHING SHE WANTED-- RINGO'S MONEY -- AND HER COLLECTION OF LOVERS--



GAURIE COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY RINGO WAS IN SUCH A HURRY TO LEAVE THE WEDDING -- IT WASN'T EVERY DAY THAT A GIRL GOT MARRIED -- BUT SHE FOR-GOT ABOUT THAT WHEN HE TALKED OF HER WEDDING PRESENT --



THE CAKE! LAURIE HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT--

GO AHEAD, BABY--TAKE THE

COVER OFF -- IT'S A SURPRISE-
I HAD IT MADE ESPECIALLY

FOR YOU!

AND IT MADE ESPECIALLY

SHOULDN'T

HAVE--

EAGERLY LAURIE TOOK THE COVER OFF --AND THEN HER SMILE OF HAPPINESS TURNED TO A SHRIEK OF HORROR --



SHE LOOKED AT THE CAKE -- THE GRUESOME CAKE -- AND NOW SHE KNEW WHAT RINGO MEANT WHEN HE SAID HE WAS A HATCHET MAN! AND AS FOR THE SAYING, "YOU CAN'T HAVE YOUR CAKE AND EAT IT TOO", WELL, RINGO FIXED IT SO SHE COULD --



UF EVER THERE LIVED A CRUEL, SADISTIC BEAST, IT WAS COCHON, THE JAILKEEPER. AND IT WAS ONCE WOE UNTO THE PRISONERS IN INS CHARGE. FOR THEY WERE TO UNDERGO A TORTURE THAT WAS WORSE THAN DEATH ITSELF...

### DONT LAUGH NEXT THE SOMEONE SAYS



DEEP IN THE CASTLE DUNGEON OF THE MARQUIS DE VIELOT, COCHON, THE JAILER, ADMITTED FIVE NEW PRISONERS WITH UNCONCEALED DELIGHT... FOR TO COCHON, PRISONERS MEANT MORE FOOD FOR HIS OWN FAT BELLY...

SO THESE ARE
THE MISBEGOTTEN
OFFSPRING OF THE
ILL-FATED DUC DE
MARABON, THE

AYE! THEY SOUGHT
VENGEANCE FOR THEIR FATHER'S
DEATH AT THE HANDS OF OUR
MASTER, AND SET UPON HIM AS Y
HE RODE TO VERSAILLES. THEY
WOULD SURELY HAVE KILLED HIM



COCHON'S FACE GLOWED IN PLEASURABLE

THE MASTER HAS ORDERED THEM KEPT IN CHAINS UNTIL HIS RETURN, HE WOULD OVERSEE THEIR EXECUTION PERSONALLY! AND ARE THEY
TO BE FED?...
WILL FOOD BE
SENT DOWN
FROM THE
KITCHENS?

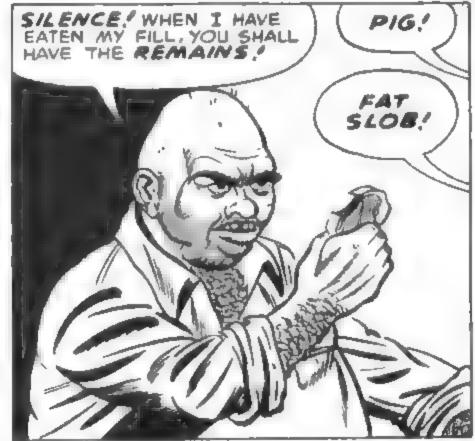
THE MASTER WILL
NOT RETURN FOR
MANY WEEKS, THEY
MUST BE



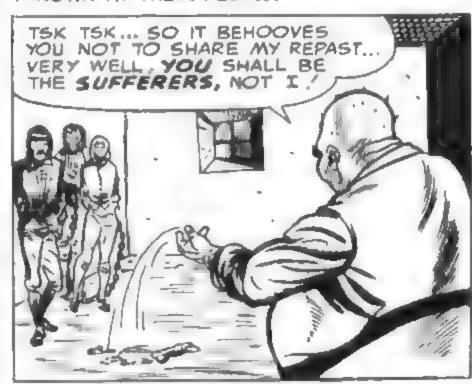








AFTER COCHON HAD GORGED HIMSELF TO THE UTMOST, HE FLUNG THE SCRAPS TO THE PRISONERS...THEY LOOKED AT HIM, UNDISGUISED HATRED IN THEIR EYES, BUT THEY MADE NO MOVE TOWARDS THE FOOD HE HAD THROWN AT THEIR FEET...



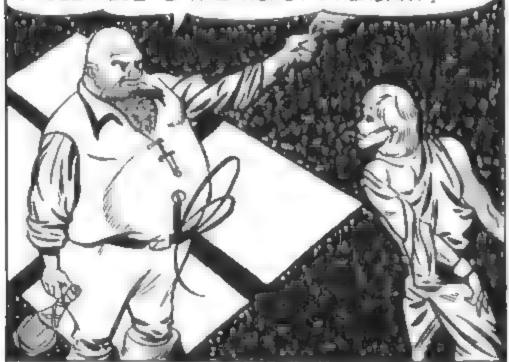
FIVE WEEKS PASSED... FIVE WEEKS OF STARWATION AND TORMENT AS THEIR BODIES
GRADUALLY GREW THIN AND WEAK FROM LACK OF NOURISHMENT! THE SADISTIC JAILER BROUGHT
EACH MEAL INTO THE CELL AND DEVOURED IT BEFORE THEIR EYES! REVELING AS HE WATCHED
EACH OF THEM BREAK DOWN IN THE FACE OF EXTREME HUNGER!





AND WHEN THE FOOD WAS BROUGHT, COCHON MADE GREAT SPORT WITH IT BEFORE THE ANGUISHED EYES OF THE PRISONERS! HE HELD UP EACH MOUTHFUL, TAUNTING THEM WITH IT... DELIGHTING IN THEIR ANGUISH... REVELING IN HIS POWER OVER THEM ...

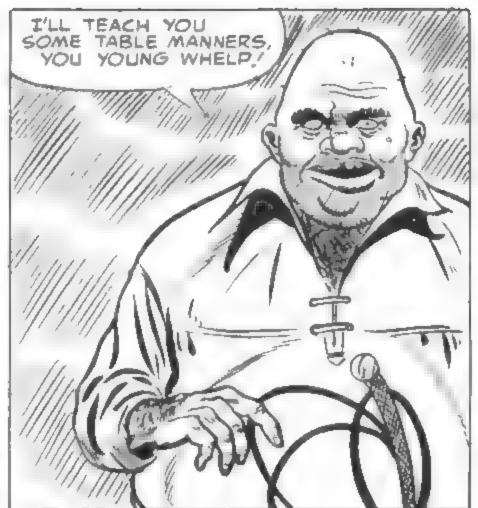
AH ... DELICIOUS! YOU CANNOT IMAGINE HOW DELECTABLE IS THIS ROAST PHEASANT!



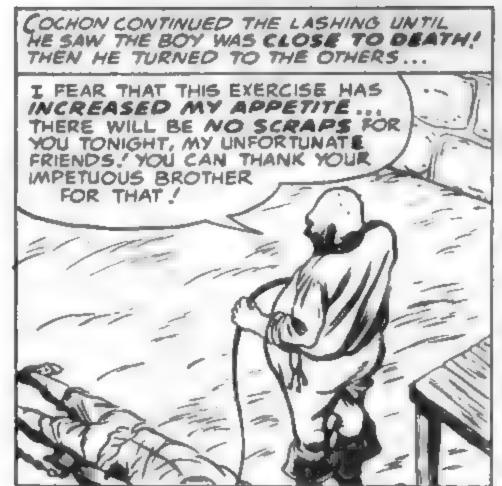












AND THEN THE DAUGHTER OF THE DUC DE MARABON MADE A STRANGE PRONOUCEMENT...



AND LATE THAT NIGHT AS COCHON MADE HIS LAST REGULAR CHECK ON THE PRISONERS, HE HEARD A VOICE ...

THE MEAL SEEMED TO LAST FOR HOURS AS THE PRISONERS WATCHED THE SADISTIC JAILER STUFF HIMSELF TILL IT SEEMED HE MUST BURST! FINALLY HE LEFT! AND ALL THAT REMAINED WAS THE TERRIBLE, TORTURING HUNGER ... A LIVING THING, GNAWING, TEARING AT THEIR SHRUNKEN STOMACHS!









I WOULD ...





THE SCHEME HAD WORKED ... THE UNSUSPECTING COCHON FELL VICTIM TO HIS OWN EVIL DESIRES !



THE NEXT MORNING, THE MARQUIS DE VIELOT, WITH A PLATOON OF GUARDSMEN, CAME TO THE DUNGEON TO REMORE THE PRISONERS TO THE GALLOWS!



Ю





O YOU THINK YOU CAN SHAPE YOUR OWN FUTURE ... THAT YOUR DESTINY IS IN YOUR OWN HANDS ... THAT YOU CAN PULL THE STRINGS TO YOUR FUTURE ... MAY BE SO ... MAY BE IT'S ...











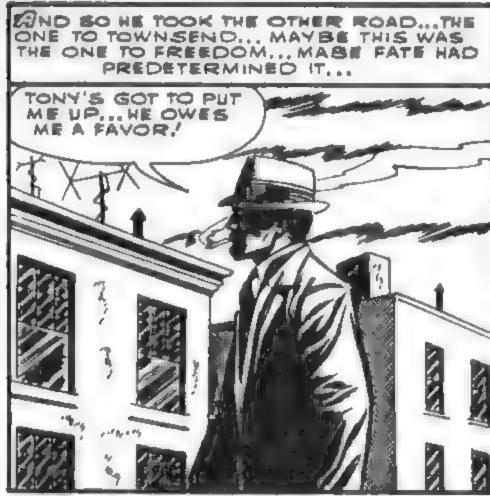


















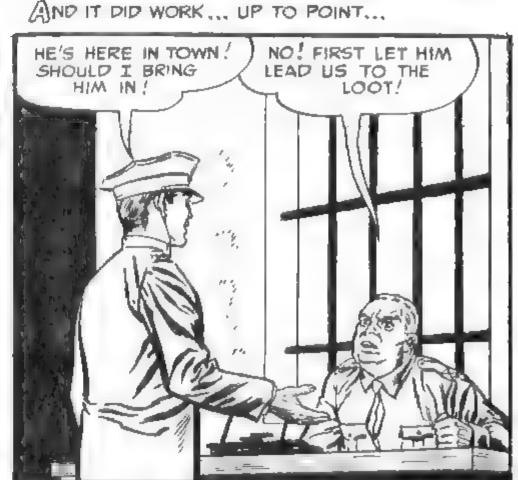
















CHE SMILED TO HIMSELF ... LAUGHED ... HE

















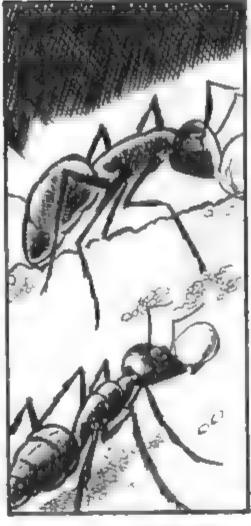


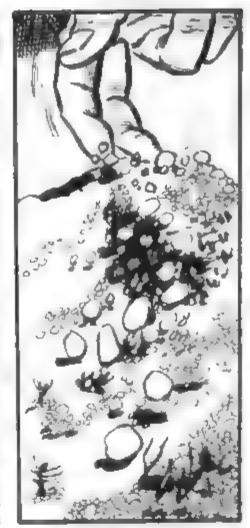




GO YOU THINK YOU CAN CONTROL YOUR OWN DESTINY...YOUR FUTURE...YOUR FATE... THEN WHICH ROAD WOULD YOU HAVE TAKEN ... MAYBE HE HAD TAKEN THE WRONG ONE ... BUT IT WAS DETERMINED THAT WAY ... THIS WAS HIS END!









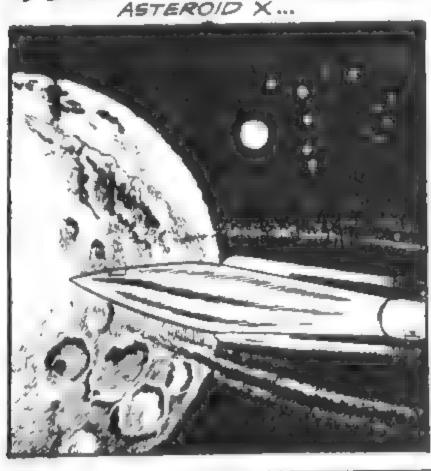
NTS ARE INSIGNIFICANT LITTLE THINGS, AREN'T THEY? NEVER GIVE THEM MUCH THOUGHT, DO YOU? WELL, YOU SHOULDN'T, UNLESS THEY PULL A SWITCH AND PLAY---







WHILE LATER, THE SPACE SHIP LANDED AT ITS DESTINATION ...



SURE IS GOOD TO
STRETCH OUR LEGS...
BUT THIS PLACE
LOOKS DESERTED!
LOOKS LIKE WE
CAME ALL THE WAY
FOR NOTHING!

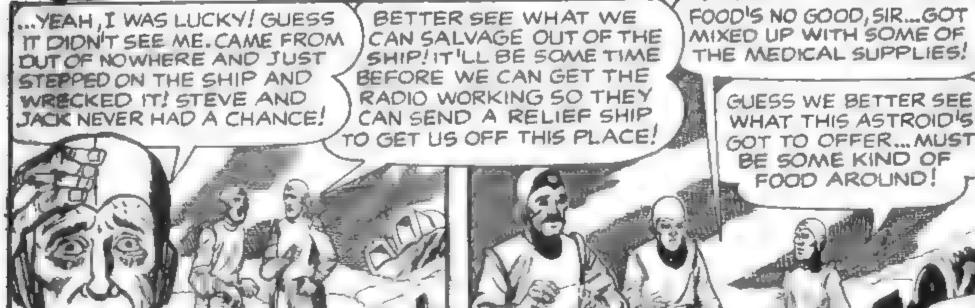
STRETCH OUR LEGS...
PLAY IT CAREFUL! BUT
WE WON'T NEED THESE
MASKS, THE AEROMIXTURE INDICATOR SAYS
THERE'S PLENTY OF
OXYGEN IN THE AIR!













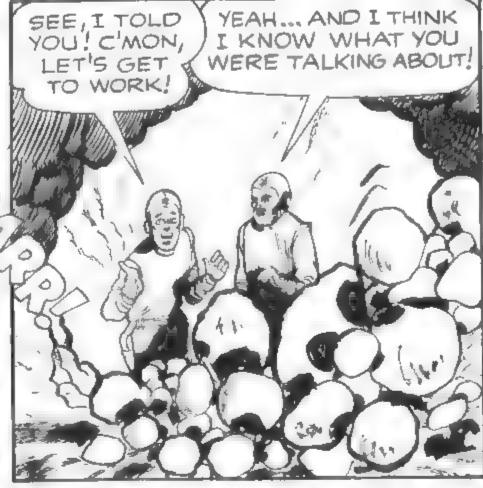
















END





BUT THAT DAY IN COURT I WASN'T THINKING

EMBEZZLEMENT, THE COURT SENTENCES YOU TO FIVE YEARS IN JAIL! I WAS FRAMED! I WAS FRAMED!



AND I HAD BEEN FRAMED .. BY THE MAN WHO HAD BEEN MY PARTNER...HE HAD DONE THE EMBEZZLING ... BUT HAD MADE IT LOOK LIKE I WAS THE GUILTY PARTY!



















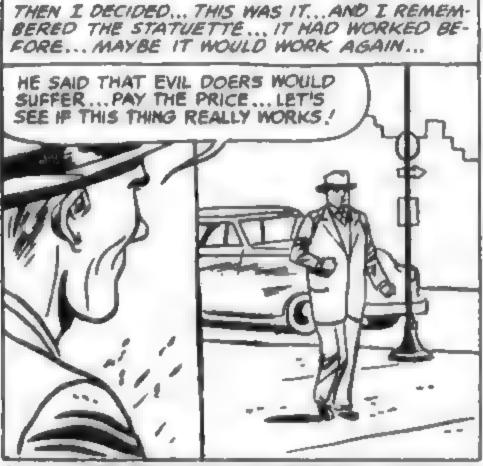




















THE THINGS THAT I WANTED COULDN'T BE BOUGHT WITH NICKELS AND DIMES...IT TOOK BIG MONEY! AND RIGHT NOW I WAS AFTER IT... I HAD PLANNED IT WELL... RIGHT NOW I WAS GOING TO GET MY...







I WANTED TO RUN ... I WAS SCARED ... BUT THE SIGHT OF THAT MONEY KEPT ME GOING ...



I WAS SHAKING WITH FEAR ... I FELT THAT EVERY EYE WAS ON ME ... BUT I HAD AT LEAST \$100,000 IN THAT PAPER BAG ... COLD CASH ... ALL MINE!



I WALKED OUT OF THE BANK INTO THE STORM WIND AND SNOW LASHED AT ME, BUT I DIDN'T EYEN NOTICE IT ... ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS



I DROVE SLOWLY DOWN THE MAIN STREET OF THE TOWN...TOWARD THE HIGHWAY...



I HEARD THE SHOTS THEN ... BUT DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ... THE STORM HAD HIT FULL FORCE ... TAKE MORE THAN AN OLD BANK GUARD TO AIM IN THIS WEATHER!



I HEADED NORTH ON THE SUPERHIGHWAY ... AWAY FROM THE SMALL TOWN ...







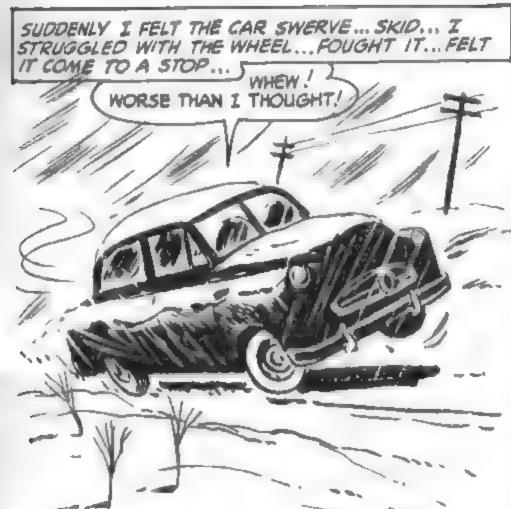








I COULDN'T RESIST TOUCHING THE MONEY ... MY MONEY ... HARD CASH ... AND ALL MINE! MINE TO





I FOUGHT MY WAY THROUGH THE STORM TO THE



THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING TO DO., TURN UP THE HEATER IN THE CAR AND WAIT FOR THE STORM TO DIE DOWN... I DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE POSSE, THEY WOULDN'T BE OUT IN THIS STORM.







I STEPPED OUT OF THE CAR AND FELT THE FULL FORCE OF THE STORM STRIKE ME...THE BITING COLD PENETRATE MY CLOTHES...



THE SNOW WAS SO THICK THAT I COULDN'T SEE TWO FEET IN FRONT OF ME. .. BUT I COULDN'T STAY IN THE CAR ... THAT WAS SURE DEATH ...



IT BECAME A PERSONAL DUAL BETWEEN THE STORM AND MYSELF... I COULD FEEL IT TRYING TO TEAR THE MONEY FROM MY GRASP... BUT I WOULDN'T LET IT...NOT AFTER WHAT I HAD BEEN THROUGH!



I FELL FROM EXHAUSTION! IT WAS NICE JUST LAY-ING THERE ... DIDNIT EVEN FEEL THE COLD... SLEEP. GIVE ALL THE MONEY BACK IF I COULD ONLY SLEEP.



THROUGH A BREAK IN THE STORM I SAW THE EMBANKMENT... IT WASN'T MUCH, BUT IT WAS BETTER THAN NOTHING!

SHIELD...ME...FROM...THE WIND ..THE COLD...MUST...



AND I MADE IT ... DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT SUDDENLY I WAS AGAINST THE EMBANKMENT ...

















WHAT ELSE COULD GENE DO... HE FOUGHT AGAINST IT... BUT THE MONEY THAT MEANT SO MUCH TO HIM WAS HIS ONLY CHANCE... EVEN IF IT DIDN'T DO ANY GOOD... GUESS THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN BY... COLD CASH!

# THE EURSE OF THE PURATES GOLD







AHOY THERE MATEYS, GLAD
TO HAVE YOU ABOARD! I'M
CAP'N SILAS OF THE ILLFATED SEA QUEEN! WELL,
SHIVER MY TIMBERS, LITTLE
SAL HERE SURE HAS BLOSSOM
ED INTO A TRIM LITTLE CRAFT!







"THE CAP'N TOOK THEM ON A TOUR OF HIS HOUSE, ER, SHIP, AND FINALLY IT WAS TIME TO TURN IN ... FOR AS CAP'N SILAS SAID, THEY WOULD HAVE THE EARLY WATCH THIS GUY'S CRAZY I FORGOT TO TELL AS A LOON! LET'S YOU, UNCLE SILAS IS JUST A FRUSTRATED OLD PIRATE! GET OUTA HERE WAS ALWAYS RUNNING BEFORE WE BATTY! AWAY TO SEA WHEN HE WAS A BOY ... BUT HE DOESN'T MEAN ANY HARM ... 50 WHAT IF HE THINKS HE'S A SHIPMATE OF CAPTAIN KIDD?







"EDDIE POLLOWED THE CAPTAIN AND THEN WONDERED WHY HE SUDDENLY DECIDED TO STOP WALKING ... WHAT WAS HE WAIT-



"EDDIE FOLLOWED THE OLD MAN INTO THE CAVE .... MAYBE HE WAS CRAZY MAYBE HE WASN'T .... BUT WHEN YOU LIVE BY THE ANGLES, YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO OVERLOOK ONE TRICK .... AND EDDIE WAS A GREAT ONE FOR PLAYING THE ANGLES..."



IT'S ALL HERE, KIDD! BET

YOU'RE SPINNIN' IN YOUR

GRAVE TO SEE ME WITH
YOUR TREASURE! FIVE
THOUSAND...SIX
THOUSAND...YUP
IT'S ALL HERE!

IT'S ALL HERE!

IS LITTLE EDDIE HERE
CAN BE JUST AS
CRAZY!

CRAZY ALL RIGHT.

CRAZY AS A FOX!

SO THAT'S WHAT HE WAS WAITING FOR...
THE TIDE TO GO OUT! BET THAT'S
WHERE HE KEEPS HIS TREASURE...
IF IT REALLY EXISTS! MAYBE THIS
GLIV ISN'T AS BALMY AS HE LOOKS!

"THEY WAITED A FEW MORE MOMENTS ..

THE FRUSTRATED PIRATE AND THE CHEAP



THE HOOD HAD SEEN ENOUGH....NOW THE PROBLEM WAS HOW TO GET HIS GREEDY HANDS ON THE MONEY...BUT YOU FORGOT, EDDIE KNEW ALL THE ANGLES......



WITHIN HIS EVIL
BRAIN A PLAN HAD
BEEN BORN! IT WAS
PERFECT...HE COULDN'T MISS! SO THE OLD
BOY WANTED TO BE
A SEA CAPTAIN, EH!
WELL HERE'S WHERE
HE HAD HIS WISH....
ONLY HIS CREW WAS
GOING TO MUTINY!



"HE RACED BACK TO HIS ROOM, ER CABIN, ONLY TO FIND THAT SAL HAD AGREED WITH HIM... SHE WAS BUSY PACKING!"

NOTHIN' YOU'RE RIGHT, EDDIE ... THIS PLACE DOIN' BABY! WHEN WE 15 TOO MUCH FOR ME! WE'LL LEAVE LEAVE HERE TOMORROW AND IT'LL BE WITH ENOUGH DOUGH TAKE OUR TO FINANCE A CHANCES TRIP TO SOUTH WITH THE AMERICA .... AND COPS! IN STYLE!



"SAL DIDNT QUITE UNDERSTAND WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO EDDIE ... IT WASN'T UNTIL HE EXPLAINED WHAT HE HAD SEEN THAT SHE FELL IN WITH HIS PLAN



HIM AND THE MONEY OUT INTO THE BAY. SINK HIM AND THE BAY. SINK HIM AND THE BOAT. AND SWIM TO SHORE WITH THE DOUGH! NOBODY'LL EVER FIND HIM...NOBODY'LL MISS THE LOOT! AND BY THE TIME THEY DO, WE'LL BE BACK IN BUSINESS SOUTH OF THE BORDER!



A PERFECT PLAN YOU'D SAY? WELL, YOU KNOW THE ONE ABOUT THE BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND MEN ...! BUT CAPN SILAS DIDN'T FIT RIGHT IN WITH EDDIE'S IDEA. AFTER ALL, HE HAD MONEY...THERE WAS NO NEED FOR HIM TO SOME TIME! AND SO EDDIE AND SALHAD TO PUT UP WITH THE CAP'N AND HIS TALES OF THE SPAN ISH MAIN AND PIRATES AND HANGING FROM THE YARDARM ..... WELL, IT WAS ENOUGH TO DRIVE ANYONE BATTY



"THE WEEKS PASSED AND THEN ONE NIGHT IT HAPPENED....THE NIGHT EDDIE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR.....



SLOWLY, EVER SO SLOWLY, THE SMALL CRAFT MADE ITS WAY INTO THE CAVE ....."





"NO, HE HADN'T MADE ONE SINGLE MISTAKE.....THERE WAS A TREASURE IN THE CHEST .....AND NOW IT WAS HIS FOR THE TAKING!"



ONCE OUT OF THE CAVE, ED-DIE PLIT THE REST OF HIS PLAN INTO EFFECT.....





"THE THUS SLIPPED INTO THE WATER ... IT WAS JUST A SHORT SWIM TO SHORE ... TO SAFETY .... TO SOUTH OF THE BORDER!"





"WHAT ARE YOU STRUGGLING FOR EDDIE?"
WHAT'S WRONG! CRAMP! OCTOPUS! NO.....
SOMETHING ELSE! SOMETHING YOU HADN'T
PLANNED ON!"



WAITED ON THE BEACH





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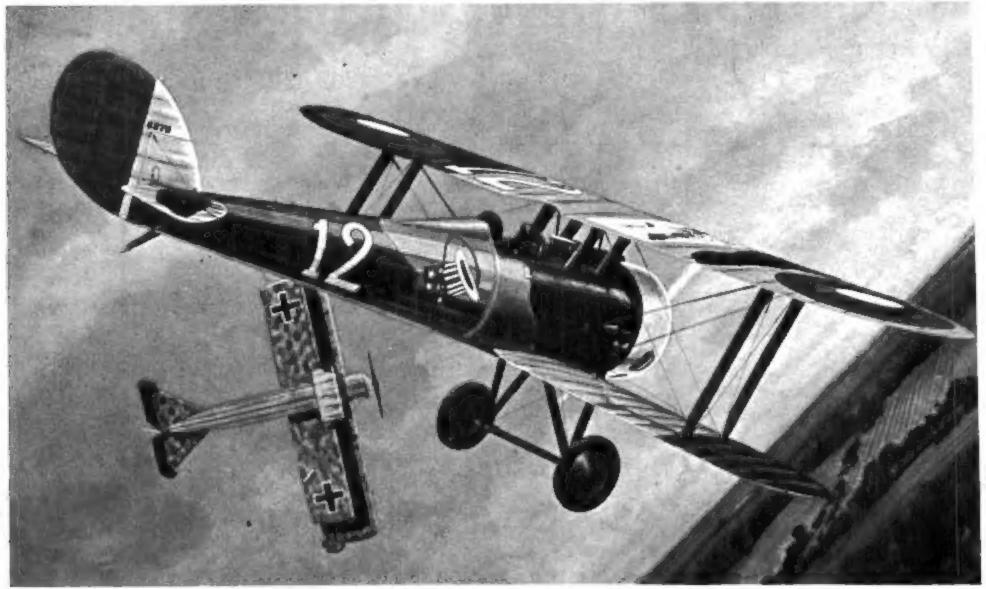
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